

Diaz, Angelique

From: sarah@uraniumwatch.org
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2013 7:59 AM
To: Diaz, Angelique
Subject: Questions regarding Part 61 Subparts B and W facilities

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Dear Ms. Diaz,

1. I was wondering when I might expect a response regarding the applications and compliance with 40 CFR Part 61 Subpart B for the mines in Colorado. The DOE extended the comment period regarding the Uranium Leasing Program associated with the mines I asked about. The comment period was extended to the end of May, which is not to far away.

2. Also, I wonder why it is OK with the EPA for the White Mesa Mill to be in violation of the 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart W, § 61.252(b)(1) standard regarding the number of tailing impoundments in operation at any one time. A tailings impoundment is in operation if the until it enters the closure period. At this time, there are 4 tailings impoundments that are licensed to receive tailings and one impoundment to hold liquids in operation at the White Mesa Mill.

40 CFR § 61.252(b)(1):

(b) After December 15, 1989, no new tailings impoundment can be built unless it is designed, constructed and operated to meet one of the two following work practices:

(1) Phased disposal in lined tailings impoundments that are no more than 40 acres in area and meet the require- ments of 40 CFR 192.32(a) as determined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. **The owner or operator shall have no more than two impoundments, including existing impoundments, in operation at any one time.**

Thank you,

Sarah Fields
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